



# CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE NAN EILEAN SIAR

WESTERN ISLES HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

## Advocacy Plan

Report by Chief Officer, Health and Social Care

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update the Joint Board on the development of a new Advocacy Plan.

### COMPETENCE

2. The matters arising in the report have no immediate financial, legal or HR implications..

### SUMMARY

3. In 2015, the Mental Welfare Commission was given a new responsibility to oversee how NHS Boards and local authorities were discharging their statutory duties under the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 to secure independent advocacy services to everyone with a mental disorder who required them.
4. The principal issues highlighted in the subsequent [report](#) relate to variable planning and provision of advocacy services across Scotland, and to a lack of clarity in some areas on where responsibilities lie for preparation of strategic advocacy plans. The report makes recommendations for NHS chief executives and HSCP chief officers, and specific recommendations about advocacy services for children and young people, for HSCP chief officers and local authority chief executives. It asks that we ensure that there is clarity about which organisation will be responsible for coordinating the preparation of strategic advocacy plans for their area, and that strategic advocacy plans are in place by the end of December 2018.
5. We have now developed a draft advocacy plan for all health and care services in the Western Isles. Should the IJB approve the plan, it will be passed to the Comhairle and Health Board for consideration thereafter. We will also send a copy to the Mental Welfare Commission.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

6. It is recommended that the IJB approves the plan.

**Ron Culley,**  
Chief Officer, CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE





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